

Remarks

Claims 2-5, 10-12 and 14-21 are pending and are under consideration.

Claims 11 and 12 are canceled.

Claim 2 is amended.

Claims 2-5, 10 and 14-21 will be pending upon entry of this Amendment.

The limitations of claim 12 are incorporated into independent claim 2. Further, the definition of "n" is limited to 1. The antistatic agent of formula V is now more specifically defined.

No new matter is added.

Claims 2-5, 10-12 and 14-21 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Krockenberger, et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,807,504.

The present antistatic agents of formula V are now aimed at the compounds of the working Examples, namely EOA-1 and EOA-2 on pages 36 and 37 of the disclosure, stearyldiethanolamine and C₁₃/C₁₅alkyldiethanolamine.

The present specific compounds of formula V contain one lipophilic group R₆ and one or two ethanol groups R₇ and R₈. There is no hint in Krockenberger to these specific amines of formula V. Specific compounds mentioned in Krockenberger are for example stearylamine, diethanolamine and in particular triisopropanolamine, col. 3, lines 13-19. Krockenberger does not contemplate the present specific antistatic compounds of formula V.

In view of the present amendments and the above remarks, Applicants submit that the present claim rejections under 35 USC 103(a) are addressed and are overcome.

The Examiner is kindly requested to reconsider and to withdraw the present rejections.

Applicants submit that the present claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that they be found allowable.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Stevenson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Tyler A. Stevenson
Agent for Applicants
Reg. No. 46,388

Ciba Specialty Chemicals Corp.
540 White Plains Road
P.O. Box 2005
Tarrytown, NY 10591-9005
Tel. (914)785-2783
Fax (914)785-7102